Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/10/17: CIA-RDP82-00457R001600160006-5 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT INFORMATION REPORT DATE DISTR. 1511 June 1948 COUNTRY Bulgaria/Palestine 50X1-HUM Migration of Bulgarian Jews to Palestine NO. OF PAGES SUBJECT 209185 NO. OF ENCLS. **ACQUIRED** 50X1-HUM PPLEMENT TO PORT NO. DATE OF INFO ACQUIRED THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INTOMINATION AFFECTING THE MATIONAL BEFENSE
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AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE RECEIVING AGENCY. THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS 50X1-HUM there are approximately 46,000 Jews in Bulgaria, of 1. whom his 000 are Sephardic (Spanish) Jews and 2,000 are Ashkenazic (German, Austrian, Polish) Jews. all of these Jews 50X1-HUM desire to emigrate to Palestine, for one of the following reasons:
(a) religious motives; (2) desire to join relatives now in Palestine there are approximately 10,000 Jewish families in 50X1-HUM Bulgaria having sons or close relatives in Palestine, primarily as the result of the first migration which took place in 1925); and (c) opposition to communism. 2. The first migration of Bulgarian Jews since the war took place late in December 1947 when several hundred Jews between the ages of 17 and 35 departed from Burgas aboard the PAN CRESCENT and PAN YORK. The local Zionist organization allegedly selected emigrants on the basis of loyalty to the Zionist cause, number of relatives residing in Palestine and potential contribution to the economy of Palestine. The Bulgarian government refused to permit the removal of any property from the country and each emigrant departed with not more than a knapsack or suitcase. A collective passport was issued for the group. 3. A second group left Bulgaria around the middle of Bebruary, via Proag Prague, Paris and Marseilles. Each person carried a Bulgarian passport and a Palestinian certificate issued by the British. These emigrants were in the same age group, and, as in the first migration, 60 percent of the emigrants were men. 4. A third group departed early in March, also bearing Bulgarian passports and Palestinian certificates; while a fourth group is waiting to leave for Palestine. There are said to be about 40 communist agents in the latter group. 5. Not more than two percent of the Bulgarian Zionists, which comprise the largest group of Jews desiring to go to Palestine, are communists. It is stated that about half of this number are idealists who were communists before 9 September 1914, when the communists gained control in Bulgaria, and that the remainder are opportunists who "still want to do business". This document is hereby regraded to

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